

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, prior to the first paragraph which begins on line 4, please insert the following:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, prior to the second paragraph which begins on line 14, please insert the following:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 1, line 14 and ends on line 20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Apparatuses having at least one oscillatory element, so-called vibration detectors, are already known for detecting, or monitoring, the fill level of a fill substance in a container. The oscillatory element is usually at least one oscillatory rod, which is secured to a membrane. The membrane is excited to oscillate via an electromechanical transducer, e.g. a piezoelectric element. Because of the oscillations of the membrane, ~~also~~ the oscillatory element secured to the membrane also oscillates.

On page 3, prior to the first paragraph which begins on line 1, please insert the following:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

On page 4, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 28, please insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 5, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 8, please insert the following:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 5, line 8 and ends on line 24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 1 shows a schematic drawing of the apparatus of the invention for determining and/or monitoring a process variable of a medium (not shown) in a container (not shown). The process variable can be the fill level, density or viscosity of the medium. The apparatus has an essentially cylindrical housing. On the lateral surface of the housing, there is a screw thread for securing the apparatus. Secured to the a membrane 5 of the apparatus ~~[[1]]~~ is ~~the~~ an oscillatable unit 1 protruding into the container. In the illustrated case, the oscillatable unit 1 is embodied in the form of a tuning fork; thus the tuning fork includes two oscillatory rods 3, 4 secured to the membrane 5 and protruding into the container. A sending/receiving unit 6 causes membrane 5 to oscillate, with the sending unit exciting the membrane 5 to oscillate with a predetermined transmitting frequency and the receiving unit receiving the response signals of the oscillatable unit 1. Due to the oscillations of the membrane 5, the oscillatable unit 1 also oscillates, with the oscillation frequency being different when the oscillatable unit 1 is in contact with the fill substance and a mass-coupling to the fill substance is present, compared with when the oscillatable unit 1 can oscillate freely and without contact with the fill substance.

Please delete page 8 in its entirety.